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TO: Examiner Anuradha Ramana, Group Art Unit 3733

FAX NUMBER: 571-273-8300

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RE: Response to Final Office Action for U.S. Patent Application No. 10/603,471 to Larry Gause et al.

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This collection of Information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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November 20, 2007

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Douglas A. Collier

Typed or printed name

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#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:	)	Before the Examiner:
Larry Gause et al.	)	Anuradha Ramana
	)	
Application Serial No. 10/603,471	)	Group Art Unit: 3733
	)	
Filed: June 25, 2003	)	Attorney Ref. No.:
	)	MSDI-259/PC757.00
SYSTEM FOR STABILIZING A PORTION	)	
OF THE SPINE	)	November 20, 2007

#### **RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 20, 2007, please enter and consider the following. No fees or extensions of time are believed due for consideration of this response. However, please provide any extensions of time necessary and charge any fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

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November 20, 2007 (Date of Transmission)

<u>Douglas A. Collier</u>
Name of Registered Representative

Signature

November 20, 2007 Date of Signature

Response to Final Office Action Application Serial No. 10/603,471 Atty Docket No. MSDI-259/PC757.00 Page 1 of 7